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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**31 OCTOBER 2019**

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Customs and Border Patrol Seize \$2.3 million in Meth

(U) Reynosa – On Sunday, a 59-year-old Mexican citizen from Reynosa drove a green Ford F-150 across the border from Mexico on the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge into Texas. Upon further inspection, US Customs and Border Protection used screening equipment on the vehicle, and discovered 24 packages of meth weighing 115.5 lbs hidden in the tires. CBP said the meth was worth more than \$2.3 million. Officers seized the drugs and truck, arrested the vehicle's driver and turned him over to Homeland Security Investigations agents.

SOURCE: 30 October 2019, [NY Daily News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Ohio – Large Fentanyl Seizure in Ohio, Montgomery County

(U) Dayton – Over 40 pounds of fentanyl were seized in an Ohio drug bust during the week of 21 October. Investigators seized over 44 pounds (20 kilograms) of suspected fentanyl, along with 1,500 grams of suspected meth and 500 grams of suspected heroin, officials said. Three firearms and \$30,000 were also seized in the bust. The state of Ohio has been one of the hardest-hit states by the nation's growing opioid and fentanyl epidemics.

SOURCE: 30 October 2019, [ABC News](#)

(U) Washington – Threat to US Elections in 2020 is not Limited to Russia

(U) District of Columbia – American officials currently include multiple countries in the warning about foreign efforts to disrupt the 2020 election. US intelligence agencies reported Russian, Chinese and Iranian influence activities targeting last year's midterms, and a senior FBI official last week singled out Beijing as a particular source of concern. Meanwhile, Microsoft recently reported that Iranian hackers had targeted an unidentified presidential campaign along with government officials, journalists and prominent expatriate Iranians.

SOURCE: 30 October 2019, [APNews](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Australia – Australian Police Seize 400 kg of Crystal Meth Hidden in Chili Sauce Bottles

(U) Sydney – Four men have been arrested after Australian police seized 400 kilograms of crystal meth, worth an estimated \$210 million concealed in bottles of sriracha hot chili sauce from the United States. A search of an air cargo consignment that had arrived at a Sydney freight depot from the United States on 15 October found 768 bottles of sriracha chili sauce, "with presumptive testing returning a positive indicator for methamphetamine."

SOURCE: 30 October 2019, [Reuters](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED**(U) Turkey – Government Detains 100 with ISIS Ties**

(U) Istanbul – Turkey's police chief said 100 people have been detained in raids against the Islamic State and that the group was allegedly planning an attack. Police Chief Mehmet Aktas said yesterday the suspects were detained in 26 raids across 21 provinces. They were allegedly preparing for a possible attack to coincide with Tuesday's celebrations marking the 96th anniversary of the founding of the Turkish Republic. Turkey has stepped up security following ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's death in a U.S. military raid in Syria. Police on Monday detained 20 foreign nationals suspected of IS links in a security sweep in Ankara.

SOURCE: 30 October 2019, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.

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